

#351/A
5/3/01
V. Hart

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: BAUER et. al

Application No.: 08/659,056

Filed: June 3, 1996

Group Art Unit: 3724

Examiner: Clark F. Dexter

Atty. Docket No.: 8932-309

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR
CUTTING BODIES HAVING NON-
CIRCULAR CROSS SECTION



PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments and remarks into the file of this application prior to examination.

In the Claims:

A clean set of all pending claims is attached as Appendix A. Please amend the claims to read as follows:

Please cancel claims 17 and 18 without prejudice.

Please add the following claims:

Sub H17
19. (New) A bone plate cutting apparatus for shearing by transverse forces a bone plate having a non-circular cross-section and a longitudinal axis, comprising:

a first shearing element comprising

a handle for manipulation of the first shearing element; and

a first head attached to the handle and having a front face, a back face, and at least one outer surface, the first head having a slot through the front and back faces and extending from the outer surface towards an interior of the first head; and

a second shearing element comprising

a handle for manipulation of the second shearing element; and